

# State Interagency Team Meeting- Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 26, 2022

2:00-3:00

Location: Microsoft Teams

## SIT System of Care Recommendations:

1. Address workforce challenges and stress by investing in retention and recruitment efforts that bring in individuals who provide mental health supports, developmental disability services and peer supports.
2. Respond to the additional stress and trauma that has resulted from the past two years of the pandemic for children and families.
3. Invest in community-based supports and services leveraging federal funds and grants.

**Present:** Rachel Wassel, Amy Lincoln Moore, Danielle Bragg, Cheryle Wilcox, Keith Williams Deb Forrett, Laurel Omland, Barb Joyal, Alicia Hanrahan, Dana Robson, Kerri Duquette-Hoffman

**Regrets:** Melanie D'Amico, Kheya Ganguly, Beth Sausville

Agenda Item	Notes
<b>Reviewing updates from last month any major updates we all need to know about related to our System of Care</b> ( <i>staffing changes, new programming, policy changes, fiscal, workforce challenges and planning, legislative outcomes</i> )	<p><b>Barb Joyal, FSD</b></p> <p>Highlights from the 6/20/22 (point in time) caseload report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The number of families per ongoing worker continues to trend down at 11.2 families per ongoing worker (the lowest in at least the past 10 years)</li><li>• When adjusted for vacancies and workers in original probation this number is 14.5 families per ongoing worker</li><li>• We have 183 FSW positions in the districts. 16 are vacant and 27 are in original probation</li><li>• Overall number of children and youth in DCF custody continues to trend down at 1069<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 32 are delinquent youth in care</li><li>○ 100 are UC (beyond parental control) which is a substantial increase—this could be attributed to the increase in youth that have come into care while in a mental health crisis)</li><li>○ 17 are in voluntary care</li><li>○ 920 are in care due to issues of child abuse or neglect</li></ul></li><li>• Family support cases continue to trend down at 185 (this is the lowest we've had in the past decade which could be attributed to the anticipatory change in CF policy)</li><li>• Conditional Custody Order Cases are trending steady at 505</li><li>• Licensed Foster Caregivers will receive a 5% bump in their reimbursement starting in July</li></ul> <p><b>Alicia, Agency of Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A group from AOE is going to be meeting about the YRBS to discuss questions they may want to propose.</li><li>• <a href="#">Graduation Readiness Tool</a> on AOE website is especially geared towards kids with disabilities. Helpful resource.</li></ul>

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	<p><b>Diane, Vermont Family Network</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VFN is seeking an Executive Director—<a href="#">posting on the VFN website</a></li> <li>• Youth Risk Behavior Survey results for 2021 are not yet in. VFN advocated for questions related to disability be added to the 2021 survey and believes that for 2023 disability should be included as a demographic data point like LGBTQI+ when the results and analysis are complete - rather than as part of a summary related to the social determinants of health. Further, VFN believes that disability-related questions should be included in the 2023 middle school survey as well as the high school survey. Children with disabilities are often bullied in middle school related to their disability.</li> <li>• Voices of Our Network storytelling event was held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and was a truly beautiful, compelling event.</li> <li>• Upcoming webinar on July 7<sup>th</sup> 1:00-2:00 pm re: the special education rule changes and what this means for families. Vermont Special Education Rule Changes were scheduled to take effect July 2022. However, the Vermont Legislature passed Education Bill H.716, which includes a one-year partial delay of the Special Education Rules. Cammie M Naylor, MSW, Esq., a Staff Attorney with the Disability Law Project at Vermont Legal Aid, Inc. will be the presenter. To register: <a href="https://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/event/register-for-special-education-rule-changes-what-does-this-mean-for-families-2/">https://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/event/register-for-special-education-rule-changes-what-does-this-mean-for-families-2/</a></li> <li>• SDM Strong! Supported Decision Making and Alternatives to Guardianship July 30 @ 10:00 AM - JULY 31 @ 5:00 PM <a href="https://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/event/sdm-strong-a-supported-decision-making-training/">https://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/event/sdm-strong-a-supported-decision-making-training/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Dana Robson, DMH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have been short-staffed for 9 months and are finally fully staffed!!</li> <li>• Increasingly challenged trying to serve children with private insurance – worked with Dept of Financial Regulation and got language through the legislature to form a study group to work on how private insurance can work better for children who have high level needs in the system of care.</li> </ul> <p><b>Laurel Omland, DMH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislatively mandated for an Eating Disorder Workgroup—2 DMH medical directors will be facilitating this group.</li> <li>• Child Psychiatry access has launched thanks to new HRSA grant</li> <li>• Laurel and Cheryle went down to Rutland two weeks ago to meet with their mobile crisis team. They have one of three teams hired. Of the 18 families they are providing stabilization services to, ½ had never interacted with Rutland Mental Health before.</li> </ul>

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	<p><b>Kerri Duquette-Hoffman</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transitional Housing project, as of yesterday, there 1139 households, another 700 are in process. Currently in hotels there are 516 children. The Field Directors have been working on connecting with community partners to outreach to households to provide support and connection.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cheryle, DMH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with an AHS interagency team to put to \$4M in American Rescue Plan funds to DA/SSA and peer organizations for facilities upgrades.</li> <li>• Covidsupportvt.org grant ended and the federal team will be in VT next week meeting with folks from DMH—the federal team was very impressed with the local team in the community who provided the supports and workshops.</li> </ul> <p><b>Keith Williams, CDD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDD Information System, minimal viable product, July 3, expanded functionality over time – taking over pieces of subsidy payment for childcare providers</li> <li>• Childcare licensing regulations completed a review and drafting – going through formal approval process – early to middle of next year</li> <li>• New director of licensing in CDD – Beth Maurer, FSD office in Chittenden, transitioning to full time later in the summer</li> <li>• In CIS, in the field – staffing – two CIS coordinators, one specialized childcare coordinator</li> <li>• State team: Maria White – home visiting coordinator, Leslie David – Part C administrator, ann Dillenbeck – program improvement manager</li> <li>• Advocated for a rate increase for the bundled CIS contracts</li> <li>• EI Family Survey response just passed 61%, breaking records for second year in the row</li> </ul> <p><b>Had LIT Connections yesterday:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talked about LITs and how they support families when they come to LIT meetings.</li> <li>• Vicky Whitehill, LIT Coordinator from Newport and St. J shared about how they are collecting surveys from participants who go to CSPs to gather satisfaction data. Vicky will be sending the survey to Cheryle to distribute in case other LITs want to use it.</li> </ul>